



Cal EMA
CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

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Cal EMA Acting Secretary Bettenhausen Applauds Nomination of Erroll Southers to Assistant Secretary for the Transportation Security Administration

SACRAMENTO – California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) Acting Secretary Matthew Bettenhausen today applauded President Obama and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Napolitano for their selection and nomination of Erroll Southers to Assistant Secretary for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

"It is an excellent selection and Erroll brings vast homeland security experience at the federal, state, local levels, along with hands on airport security expertise," said Bettenhausen. "California and our Office of Homeland Security benefited greatly from his expertise and national leadership. California is safer and better prepared because of his hard work, dedication and innovative thinking. We look forward to his speedy confirmation and working closely with him in this new role," he continued.

As TSA Assistant Secretary, Southers brings his extensive interdisciplinary experience in public safety and homeland security to oversee efforts to protect America's highways, railroads, ports and mass transit systems, the security operations for 450 federalized airports throughout the United States and the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS).

Southers is currently Assistant Chief for the Los Angeles World Airports Police Department's Office of Homeland Security and Intelligence. He also serves as the Associate Director at the Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events at the University of Southern California. Previously, he was Deputy Director of Homeland Security for the state of California, and was a special agent with the FBI.

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